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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 19, 1999

Mr. George H. Sanders, Administrator
United States Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: A5-15
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Sanders:

Re: Comments on Borehole 41-09-39 Decommissioning Scope in the Completion of TPA
Milestone M-45-52-TO1

This letter is in response to your April 29, 1999, correspondence (99-PDD-031) submitting the Preliminary Site-Specific SST Phase 1 RFI/CMS Work Plan Addendum for WMA S-SX (HNF-4380, Rev.0). As part of the aggressive schedule for completion of field activities in fiscal year 1999, the Office of River Protection (ORP) has facilitated a phased approval approach to the work Plan. 50732 50733

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), as the lead regulatory agency, is committed to cleanup on the Hanford Site. Ecology will be very interested in the results generated by the use of any innovative sampling technique in borehole 41-09-39, and trusts that a level of success will be realized. In compliance with the Work Plan objectives, receipt of sampling and data analysis will be beneficial to Ecology's assessment of the phased approval process.

Ecology intends to forward comments by May 28, 1999. we look forward to future discussions on tank farm characterization and corrective actions.

Sincerely,

Antonio Valero
Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

AV:ZMJ:ld

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